

APRIL 2025

HELMETTA HAPPENINGS

Official Newsletter of the Borough of Helmetta



Fresh Starts in Spring

BY MAYOR CHRISTOPHER SLAVICEK

Daffodils around town are a sign of that fresh start to Spring!

Springtime is the perfect opportunity to take advantage of our beautiful outdoor recreational areas. Be sure to keep an eye out for a new gazebo and sitting area at the Helmetta Lake Park and a new marquee sign on Borough Hall front lawn.

Spring cleaning is always in order this time of year. Please be neighborly and tend to your yard. We also kindly request attention to dog waste.

I certainly look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and outdoors around town enjoying the Fresh Start to Spring!

Always available,

Mayor Slavicek

Mayor@helmettaboro.com



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Community Calendar

April 16th	Council Meeting	Borough Hall 7:00pm
April 17th	Glow in the Dark Egg Hunt	Community Center 6:00pm
April 18th	Borough Hall Closed	Good Friday
April 19th	Earth Day	Maple Street Pavilion 10:00am
May 17th	Town Wide Yard Sale	Locations in Town
May 17th	Touch A Truck	Maple Street Pavilion 10:00am
May 18th	Town Wide Yard Sale	Locations in Town
May 21st	Council Meeting	Borough Hall 7:00pm
May 26th	Borough Hall Closed	Memorial Day
May 26th	Memorial Day Service	Helmetta Borough Hall
June 7th	Fishing Derby	Helmetta Lake 8:30am
June 18th	Council Meeting	Borough Hall 7:00pm
June 19th	End of School Event	Maple Street Pavilion 1:00pm
June 20th	Borough Hall Closed	Juneteenth

“Spring is the time for new beginnings,
a fresh start and renewal .”



BY PAUL REED, CPWM

Fresh Starts in Spring: Tips for Staying Green!

Spring is a time for renewal, and what better way to celebrate the season than by giving back to our community and the environment? As the weather warms up, here are a few simple tips to help you stay green while enjoying all the beauty spring has to offer:

- **Keep Cars Off Roadways for Street Sweeping:**

Our next street sweeping is scheduled for April 10th. To help ensure our streets are properly cleaned, please remember to keep cars off the roadways that day. This will allow the street sweeper to clear away debris, helping to maintain a cleaner and more sustainable neighborhood.

- **Water Wisely**

As the temperatures rise, your plants may need a little extra attention. Try watering in the early morning or late evening to minimize evaporation and make the most of every drop. Additionally, consider using a rain barrel to collect runoff from your roof—an easy way to conserve water and help your garden thrive!

- **Fight Mosquitoes Naturally**

The warmer weather also brings the return of mosquitoes. Help keep your property mosquito-free by eliminating standing water in flowerpots, birdbaths, or clogged gutters. For more tips and resources on controlling mosquitoes, visit the Middlesex County Mosquito Commission's website at middlesexmosquito.org.

- **Compost Yard Waste**

Instead of sending your yard waste to the landfill, why not try composting? It's a great way to reduce waste and create nutrient-rich soil for your garden. Mulching your grass instead of bagging it provides nutrients for the soil.

- **Bi-Annual Hydrant Flushing**

April 7th- April 11th Fire hydrants are flushed to ensure proper water flow, pressure, and functionality in case of an emergency. Flushing clears sediment, debris, and rust from the pipes, improving water quality and reducing issues like discoloration or clogs. It also serves as a way to test hydrants, ensuring they open and close correctly.

- **Start a Spring Clean-Up**

Spring is the perfect time to declutter your home and yard, but don't forget to recycle. Check with Public Works for guidelines on what can be recycled and consider donating unwanted items instead of throwing them away. Let's all make this spring a fresh start for both our homes and our community! Thank you for doing your part in helping keep our town clean and green.



Jamesburg Police Department



BY CHIEF JAMES CRAPAROTTA

As we welcome the season of spring, we want to take a moment to remind everyone of the critical importance of traffic and pedestrian safety within our community. With the warmer weather, more people will be enjoying outdoor activities, and we want to ensure that everyone stays safe while enjoying everything Helmetta has to offer.

Please take note of the following important safety reminders:

For Drivers:

- **Watch for Pedestrians:** Always be vigilant and yield to pedestrians at crosswalks. In our community, it's especially important to be mindful of children, seniors, and people walking dogs.
- **Adhere to Speed Limits:** Stick to posted speed limits, particularly in residential areas and near parks. Slowing down ensures everyone has enough time to react to sudden changes in traffic or pedestrian movement.
- **Eliminate Distractions:** Avoid texting, calling, or engaging in any activities that divert your attention from the road. A momentary lapse in focus can result in serious consequences.

For Pedestrians:

- **Use Crosswalks:** Always cross the street at designated crosswalks or intersections and never assume drivers will stop. Be cautious and look both ways before crossing.
- **Stay Visible:** Wear bright or reflective clothing, especially when walking at night or in low-visibility conditions, such as early morning fog or rain.
- **Avoid Distractions:** Keep your attention on your surroundings while walking. Put away phones, headphones, and other distractions when crossing streets to ensure you are aware of your environment.

For Cyclists:

- **Wear a Helmet:** Whether cycling around town or enjoying a longer ride, wearing a helmet is essential for your safety.
- **Follow Traffic Rules:** Ride in the same direction as traffic, obey traffic signs and signals, and use hand signals to indicate your intentions to drivers.

Spring Safety Initiatives:

- **Increased Patrols:** As more people head outdoors, we will be increasing patrols in high-pedestrian areas to help ensure everyone's safety.

Community Outreach:

- **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Stay tuned for public service announcements and social media posts on safety measures that we'll be sharing in the coming weeks.

We all play a role in ensuring that Helmetta remains a safe community for pedestrians, drivers, and cyclists alike. By working together, we can continue to make our streets safer for everyone.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to the Jamesburg Police Department.





Seasonal Spruce-Ups

BY MELISSA HALLERMAN, RMC, CMR

As spring approaches, many homeowners in Helmetta may be looking forward to enhancing their homes with exciting renovation projects. Whether it's adding a deck, building an addition, or creating a backyard oasis, spring is the perfect time for home improvements. However, before breaking out the tools and starting any major work, it's crucial to understand the importance of filing a zoning and planning board application with the Borough of Helmetta. Failing to do so can result in costly fines, delays, and potential legal complications.

Helmetta, like many municipalities, has specific zoning laws designed to maintain the community's aesthetic appeal, ensure safety, and regulate land use. These laws determine how properties can be used, what types of structures can be built, and where they can be placed on your property. Before embarking on a large project, such as an addition or a new structure, it's essential to verify that your plans comply with these zoning laws.

Filing a zoning and planning board application might seem like an extra step, but in reality, it can streamline the entire approval process. By presenting your plans early and getting the necessary feedback from the board, you can identify potential issues before work begins. This proactive approach can save time in the long run and prevent unnecessary delays.

Before jumping into your home improvement projects this spring, take the time to file a zoning and planning board application. Whether you're expanding your living space, adding outdoor features, or making significant changes to your home, obtaining the necessary permits and approvals is essential for protecting your investment, maintaining your property value, and ensuring safety.

Always consult with the Borough of Helmetta's zoning office through the Clerk's Office at 732-521-4946, Ext: 100 to understand the requirements for your specific project and consider working with a professional to ensure that your plans meet all necessary standards.

By filing your zoning and planning board application, you're ensuring that your spring home improvement project is off to the best start possible!





HELMETTA FIRE DEPARTMENT



Cash prizes, 50 / 50 games, pull tab games, and progressive BINGO games. Concessions also available from the kitchen!

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM

GAMES START AT 7:30PM

EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT

Holy Trinity Church

100 Main Street Helmetta New Jersey 08828

BA 24-01 License#205-9-29109